

Remarks upon a Proposed Arrangement of the Family of GROUSE, and New Genera added.

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It has seemed to me advisable to give in a condensed form, before treating the subject in a more elaborate manner in my forthcoming Monograph, the results of my investigations, and the arrangement I would propose for the Grouse Family.

*Tetrao*, than which no generic term has been more abused in its application, for it appears to have been indiscriminately given to any gallinaceous bird, strictly belongs only to *Urogallus* and *Urogalloides*. The former is the typical *Tetrao*, as instituted by Linnæus, and possesses the beard-like appendage observed, save in its near ally, in no other bird of this family.

America has no representative of this genus, the nearest approach to it perhaps, in the form of the tail and general appearance, being the bird commonly known as *Tetrao obscurus*; but it would seem that, excepting the single species of *Bonasa sylvestris*, no European grouse can be considered as included even in the same genus with those inhabiting the New World.

I would state here, that I am not now speaking of the Lagopidæ, for I do not consider them as strictly grouse. The synoptical list that I would, therefore, propose for this portion of the Tetronidæ, is as follows:—

1st. The Genus *Tetrao*—confined to Europe and Asia; comprising *T. urogallus* and *T. urogalloides*.

2d. *Centrocerus*—confined to America; comprising *C. urophasianus*.

3d. *Lyrurus*—confined to Europe; comprising *L. tetrrix*.

For the next group, as its members appear to possess sufficient characters to distinguish the species from the commonly known *T. Canadensis*, in having gular sacks, the extraordinary number of twenty feathers in the tail, instead of sixteen, I would propose the term—

4th. *Dendragapus*—confined to America; comprising *D. obscurus* and *Richardsonii*.

5th. *Canace*—confined to America; comprising *C. Canadensis* and *C. Franklinii*.

6th. I would propose, as a generic term, founded upon the peculiar formation of its primary feathers, the specific appellation *Falcipectennis*—confined to Asia, and in compliment to its discoverer *Hartlaubii*.

7th. *Cupidonia*—confined to America; comprising *C. cupido*.

8th. *Pediceetes*—confined to America; comprising *P. columbianus* and *P. phasianellus*.

9th. *Bonasa*—Europe and America; comprising *B. umbellus*, *B. umbelloides*, *B. sylvestris*, and *B. sabini*.

*Tetrao derbianus* (Gould), appears to be identical with the common *tetrrix*. This opinion is formed upon a specimen, kindly sent to me by Mr. Gould, which he thinks is the same as the type. The latter is now in the Liverpool Museum.

I can discover no difference between this example and the usual style of *T. tetrrix*, except that the tail is a trifle longer; but as this varies considerably among the Black Grouse, I have deemed it advisable to consider the genus *Lyrurus* as possessed of but one species.

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